What is claimed is:

1.   A tape library apparatus to which a node ID is assigned and that is connected to a host computer, comprising:

5   a plurality of drives for recording and reproducing data to and from respective large capacity tape recording mediums, the drives having respective interfaces being capable of transferring large capacity data to the host computer,

10   wherein the drives are assigned respective node IDs as first addresses and respective port IDs that represent mounted order numbers as second addresses and the interfaces are activated.

2.   The tape library apparatus as set forth in
15   claim 1,

        wherein when a new drive is mounted on the tape drive apparatus, the newly mounted drive is assigned the first address and the second address in accordance with a command received from the host
20   computer.

3.   The tape library apparatus as set forth in claim 1,

        wherein when the mounted position of each of the drives is changed, the moved drive is assigned the
25   first address and the second address in accordance with a command received from the host computer.

4.   The tape library apparatus as set forth in

claim 1,

wherein when each of the drives is not assigned the first address and the second address and a command causing the drive to be assigned the first address and the second address is not received from the host computer, an address that has been assigned to the drive upon production thereof is used.

5.   A method of controlling a tape library apparatus to which a node ID is assigned and that is connected to a host computer, comprising the steps of:

assigning respective node IDs as first addresses and respective port IDs that represent mounted order numbers as second addresses to a plurality of drives for recording and reproducing data to and from respective large capacity tape recording mediums, the drives having respective interfaces being capable of transferring large capacity data to the host computer, and

activating the interfaces.

6.   The method for controlling the tape library as set forth in claim 5, further comprising the step of:

when a new drive is mounted on the tape drive apparatus, assigning the newly mounted drive the first address and the second address in accordance with a command received from the host computer.

7.   The method for controlling the tape library

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as set forth in claim 5, further comprising the step of:

when the mounted position of each of the drives is changed, assigning the moved drive the first address and the second address in accordance with a command received from the host computer.

8.   The method for controlling the tape library as set forth in claim 5, further comprising the step of:

when each of the drives is not assigned the first address and the second address and a command causing the drive to be assigned the first address and the second address is not received from the host computer, using an address that has been assigned to the drive upon production thereof.